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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SELECTMEN, AUDITORS,

AND

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF BOSCAWEN,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING MARCH 1, 1872.

CONCORD:

THE PEOPLE STEAM PRINTING WORKS, STATE BLOCK.

1872.

University of New Hampshire
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REPORT.

Whole amount of taxes committed to the Collector for 1871, was \$12,400 90

The Collector has discharged himself as follows:

Paid Town Treasurer, cash, road certificates and abatements, 10,954 01

Amount remaining due from Collector for 1871, 1,446 89

Amount remaining due from Collectors for 1870, 1869 and 1868, 272 16

\$1,719 05

Whole amount of money, abatements, &c., received by the Treasurer, from March 1, 1871 to February 29, 1872, inclusive. \$15,787 63

Amount of payments by the Treasurer for the same time as above, 15,206 19

Balance remaining in the hand of the Treasurer, March 1, 1872, \$581 44

1871.

Receipts.

Mar.	20.	To cash received of former Treasurer,	\$641 09
April	4.	Received of J. H. Flanders, on note,	148 00
"	4.	Ira Sweat, on his collection of taxes for 1870,	356 87
May	4.	Samuel Choate, on his collection of taxes for 1869,	94 75
"	13.	Ira Sweat, on his collection of taxes for 1870,	75 00
"	29.	D. E. Jones, on his collection of taxes for 1871,	150 00
June	6.	" " "	150 00
"	13.	" " "	125 00
"	20.	" " "	450 00
"	22.	" " "	375 00
"	24.	" " "	315 00
"	26.	" " "	992 00
"	27.	" " "	244 00

June	29.	Received of D. E. Jones, on his collection of taxes for 1871,	987 88
July	1.	" " "	2,525 00
"	1.	" " "	1,123 82
"	1.	" " "	558 41
"	1.	" " "	380 49
"	8.	David Abbott, from sales by auction,	22 00
"	8.	C. C. Bean, from sales by auction,	4 10
"	8.	W. B. Flanders, " "	2 00
"	8.	T. Blake, " "	80
"	8.	James Connor, " "	40
"	8.	Harper Allen, " "	45
"	8.	Isaac K. Gage, " "	3 90
"	15.	N. C. Hunt, " "	1 40
"	26.	N. Colby, " "	15 20
Aug.	14.	D. E. Jones, on his collection of taxes for 1871,	67 97
Sept.	7.	" " "	127 95
"	14.	" " "	40 00
"	19.	J. E. Rines, on note paid,	21 64
"	22.	James P. Brown, on note paid,	5 39
"	22.	Walter H. Sargent, on note paid,	21 96
"	30.	Sam'l B. Chadwick, on note paid,	33 20
Oct.	14.	D. E. Jones, on his collection of taxes for 1871,	110 00
"	15.	" " "	73 63
"	30.	" " "	225 58
"	30.	State Treasurer, as follows:	
		Railroad tax for 1871,	1,319 96
		Savings Bank tax for 1871,	647 34
		Literary Fund for 1871,	93 30
Nov.	1.	D. E. Jones, on his collection of taxes for 1871,	128 11
"	13.	" " "	150 00
"	27.	" " "	101 00
"	27.	Bitfield Plumer, on note paid,	10 85
Dec.	11.	D. E. Jones, on his collection of taxes for 1871,	65 00
1872.			
Jan	11.	Ira Sweat, on his collection of taxes for 1870,	102 00
Jan.	18.	Charles L. Glidden, on note,	175 00
"	18.	Peter Coffin, on note,	100 00
"	18.	D. E. Jones, on his collection of taxes for 1871,	174 88

Feb.	8.	Received of County, for support of paupers,	104 27
"	13.	H. W. Flanders, on note paid,	20 00
"	17.	H. W. Flanders, on note paid,	10 80
"	20.	D. E. Jones, on his collection of taxes for 1871,	183 09
"	22.	" " "	175 00
"	27.	" " "	200 00
"	27.	L. M. Chadwick, from sales by auction,	1 25
"	28.	D. E. Jones, on his collection of taxes for 1871,	475 00
"	29.	" " "	89 66
"	29.	Ira Sweat, on his collection of taxes for 1870,	248 66
"	29.	Samuel Choate, on his collection of taxes for 1868,	145 87
"	29.	Penacook Savings Bank, on note,	390 16
"	29.	Ira Sweat, on his collection of taxes for 1870,	16 01
"	29.	D. E. Jones, on his collection of taxes for 1871,	190 54
			<hr/>
			\$15,787 63

EXPENDITURES.

1871.	<i>Miscellaneous Bills.</i>		
Mar.	2.	Paid Charles C. Pearson & Co., for town orders,	\$4 50
"	2.	W. B. Flanders, for notifying town officers,	4 50
April	1.	E. E. Graves, for return of births and deaths,	8 75
May	6.	B. W. Sanborn, for stationery,	3 00
"	22.	F. J. Plumer, for digging grave,	2 00
"	22.	J. P. Hubbard, for police services,	7 25
June	2.	E. C. Morse, for digging graves,	11 00
July	19.	H. Bonney, selectmen's expenses,	24 50
"	22.	McFarland & Jenks, for reports, check lists, &c.,	54 75
"	22.	D. L. Guernsey, for stationery,	4 45
Nov.	11.	H. C. W. Moores, damage to wagon,	10 00
"	20.	C. C. Pearson & Co., for tax bills,	5 00

Nov	25.	Paid K. S. Batchelder, for water trough for 1868, 1870 and 1871,	9 00
"	27.	D. Arthur Brown, for stove for engine house,	10 00
"	27.	Holmes & Evans, for zinc for engine house,	79
Dec	1.	A. G. Howe, for painting engine house,	5 00
"	1.	B. F. Hileman for repairs on engine house.	1 75
"	27.	Bitfield Plumer, for water trough for 1870 and 1871,	6 00
"	27.	Benjamin Grose, for police services,	
1872.			
Jan.	12.	Dudley C. Hubbard, for wood,	12 00
"	17.	E. C. Morse, for digging graves,	6 00
"	17.	C. E. Chadwick, for school books for poor,	1 00
Feb.	6.	George A. Morse, pay-roll of engine company and repairs on engine,	97 80
"	13.	Ephraim Plumer, for water trough,	3 00
"	14.	Dow & Rines, for water trough for 1870 and 1871,	6 00
"	20.	N. Butler, for professional services,	13 00
"	20.	N. Butler, for services before the commissioners on reimbursement of war expenditures,	10 00
"	27.	Gage, Porter & Co., for stamps, blanks, &c.,	4 50
"	27.	Gage, Porter & Co., for labor, brick and shingles for engine house,	31 67
"	27.	C. & J. C. Gage, for labor and lumber for engine house,	50 69
"	27.	A. G. Kimball, for police services in 1870,	17 50
"	27.	Joseph Chandler, for school books for poor,	1 95
"	27.	Richard Pervare, for water trough,	3 00
"	27.	C. C. Pearson & Co., for check lists,	10 00
"	27.	Ira Sweat, discount on taxes of 1870,	21 55
"	27.	Samuel Choate, " " 1868,	12 75
"	27.	N. Butler, for cash paid auditors,	4 00
"	27.	N. Butler, express on reports,	30
"	27.	Isaac K. Gage, copying, &c.,	15 00
"	29.	E. E. Graves, cash paid for printing,	1 75
"	29.	George M. Dudley, for nails for engine house,	2 13

Feb. 29.	Paid David E Jones, collector of taxes, discount on taxes collected prior to July 1, 1871,	441 30
		<hr/> \$943 63

1871.

Roads and Bridges.

July 4.	Paid Nathan Colby, breaking roads in 1870,	\$4 00
" 4.	George W. Russell, for lighting bridge,	11 88
" 8.	David Abbott, work on road in 1870,	45 00
Aug. 1.	Gage, Porter & Co., for cess-pools and freight,	5 25
	John A. McClure, breaking roads in 1870,	2 97
Sept. 11.	E. C. Derome, repairing tools,	58
" 15.	John S. Foster, for work on road,	13 50
" 19.	Paul F. S. Clark, for one-half the expense of building bridge over Pond brook,	19 94
" 30.	J. W. J. Wier, for work on road,	1 75
1872.		
Jan. 20.	William B. Burpee, for work on road,	3 75
" 23.	Isaac K. Gage, for stone,	3 75
" 23.	John C. Morrison, for stone,	1 33
" 23.	E. W. Atkinson, for work on road,	4 29
" 23.	T. O. Wilson, for repairing stone tools,	2 44
" 23.	Charles Riley, for stone,	3 00
Feb. 26.	Geo. W. Russell, for lighting bridge,	20 49
" 26.	Geo. F. Sanborn, for stone,	21 50
" 26.	David Abbott, for work on road,	29 47
" 26.	Levi N. Collins, for work on road,	12 25
" 26.	A. G. Kimball, for plank,	26 72
" 26.	Gage, Porter & Co, for spikes and nails for bridges,	30 63
" 26.	C. & J. C. Gage, plank for bridges,	29 59
" 26.	Ira Whiteher, for shingling bridges,	527 94
" 26.	J. E. Rines, for work on road,	6 75
" 26.	J. G. Eastman, for work on road,	3 00
		<hr/> \$831 77

1871.

Support of Paupers.

April 12.	Paid Charles Morrill for board of Martha Holt,	\$16 00
" 29.	Mrs. Naomi Roby, aid, .	10 00
May 17.	Ira Sweat, house rent for Mrs. Johnson,	14 00

June	5.	Paid	Chas. Morrill, board of Martha Holt,	27 00
"	5.		Ira Sweat, house rent for Mrs. Johnson,	5 30
July	21.		H. M. Eastman, board of Mrs. S. Eastman, at N. H. Asylum for insane,	42 25
Aug.	8.		Mrs. Naomi Roby, aid,	13 00
Oct.	2.		Ira Sweat, house rent for Mrs. Johnson,	32 00
"	2.		Chas. Morrill, board of Martha Holt,	39 00
"	2.		Jacob C. Flanders, for board of David Jackman,	52 00
Nov.	1.		H. M. Eastman, board of Mrs. S. East- man at N. H. Asylum for insane,	36 80
"	3.		W. C. Marden, for support of Amanda Scribner,	23 25
"	25.		Mrs. Naomi Roby, aid,	21 00
Dec.	20.		H. M. Eastman, for board of Mrs. S. Eastman at N. H. Asylum for insane,	13 86
"	30.		Jacob C. Flanders, for board of David Jackman,	52 00
1872.				
Feb.	6.		Geo. M. Dudley, support of transient paupers,	10 35
"	6.		Geo. M. Dudley, support of A. Nichols,	2 15
"	6.		Carter & Brown, " "	4 02
"	6.		H. Bonney, aid to transient paupers,	6 00
"	6.		John A. Coburn, for funeral expenses,	13 00
"	7.		J. C. Chadwick, for support of Amanda Scribner,	10 00
"	7.		Chas. Morrill, board of Martha Holt,	39 00
"	7.		E. E. Graves, medical attendance,	36 00
"	7.		Nathan Colby, sup. of E. Gage in 1870,	21 25
"	7.		" " " " 1871,	27 15
"	7.		S. M. Emery, med. attend. on paupers,	14 00
"	28.		C. & J. C. Gage, wood for Mrs. John- son in 1870,	8 09
"	28.		E. E. Graves, medical attendance,	21 00
"	28.		S. A. Ambrose, for aid to paupers,	9 25
"	28.		J. E. Rines, aid for transient pauper,	1 00
"	28.		Geo. M. Dudley, sup. of Mrs. Johnson,	31 80
"	29.		Chas. Morrill, board of Martha Holt,	43 67
				<hr/>
				\$695 19

1871.

Payment of Bonds and Interest.

July	3.	Paid	Healey Morse, Bond No. 13,	\$500 00
"	5.		W. S. Davis, " No. 25,	500 00
"	21.		A. R. Chandler, " No. 4,	500 00

July 21.	Paid A. R. Chandler, " No. 5,	500 00
Aug. 3.	Interest on \$20,500, at 6 per cent. in gold,	1,381 49
		<hr/>
		\$3,381 49

1870. *Payments of Notes.*

Mar. 21.	Paid P. S. Bank, on note,	\$512 50
July 8.	" " "	500 00
" 17.	" " "	500 00
Aug. 5.	" " "	500 00
1872.		
Jan. 16.	E. Plumer, interest on note,	100 00
		<hr/>
		\$2,112 50

1871. *Schools and School Houses.*

June 19.	Paid W. C. Marden, Prud. Com. Dist. No. 4,	\$55 00
" 30.	N. B. Greene, Sch. house tax " 7,	400 00
July 1.	W. H. Sargent, " " " 3,	85 00
" 4.	E. E. Graves, Prud. Com. Dist. No. 1,	50 00
" 5.	H. C. Adams, " " " 3,	80 00
" 11.	F. S. Wetland, " " " 5,	52 00
" 11.	Joseph Chandler, " " " 7,	200 00
" 11.	Peter Coffin, sch. house tax, " 6,	150 00
" 11.	Peter Coffin, Prud. Com. " 6,	40 00
" 24.	E. E. Graves, " " 1,	50 00
Aug. 6.	E. E. Graves, sch. house tax Dist. No. 1,	125 00
" 21.	W. P. Abbott, Prud. Com. Dist. No. 2,	30 00
Nov. 6.	David T. Hoag, " " " 8,	49 00
" 9.	Joseph Chandler, " " " 7,	175 00
" 25.	E. E. Graves, " " " 1,	100 00
Dec. 11.	F. S. Wetland, " " " 5,	50 00
" 20.	Joseph Chandler, " " " 7,	25 00
" 27.	W. C. Marden, " " " 4,	48 00
1872.		
Jan. 26.	E. E. Graves, " " " 1,	70 00
" 29.	Peter Coffin, " " " 6,	62 00
Feb. 3.	H. C. Adams, " " " 3,	117 00
" 8.	W. P. Abbott, " " " 2,	58 00
" 26.	F. S. Wetland, " " " 5,	10 00
" 27.	Joseph Chandler, " " " 7,	412 00
		<hr/>
		\$2,493 00

1871. *Non-resident Highway Taxes worked out.*

Feb. 29.	Paid David E. Jones, non-resident highway taxes for 1871, as follows:	
	E. Couch's heirs,	50

Feb. 29.	Paid James B. Goodhue,	25
	Nicholas M. Noyes,	75
	Nathaniel Arey,	88
	Charles W. Hardy,	4 50
	Thomas Eastman,	1 38
	Nathaniel Bean,	1 25
	Sarah P. Moore,	1 63
	Joseph Barnard,	10 13
	James Thompson,	2 25
	Albert Hoit,	50
	Gilman J. Colby,	88
	Sherman Colby,	50
	Ruth E. and Rosette E. Colby,	88
	Robert Hoit,	1 50
	John C. Morrison,	75
	G. W. Wadleigh,	75
	Sundry taxes worked out by W. P. Burpee,	14 85
	John P. Watson,	6 00
		<hr/>
		\$50 13

1871. *Abatement of Taxes.*

Feb. 29.	Paid David E. Jones, abatement on list of taxes for 1871,	\$158 54
" 29.	Samuel Choate, abatements on list of taxes of 1868 and 1869,	98 46
" 29.	Ira Sweat, abatements on list of taxes of 1870,	123 93
		<hr/>
		\$380 93

1871. *Town Officers.*

June 29.	Paid Chas. E. Chadwick, for services as town clerk in 1870,	3 50
July 1.	Joseph G. Eastman, selectman for 1870,	4 00
" 21.	N. Butler, selectman for 1870,	7 00
Nov. 1.	H. P. Gill, selectman for 1870,	5 00
Feb. 28.	John Seavey, town clerk for 1871,	35 75
" 28.	E. G. Wood, selectman and overseer of the poor,	74 00
" 28.	Isaac K. Gage, treasurer,	25 00
" 29.	E. E. Graves, school committee,	44 00
" 29.	David E. Jones, collector of taxes,	80 00

Feb. 29.	Paid John E. Rines, selectman and overseer of the poor,	77 00
" 29.	W. R. Jewett, school committee,	12 00
		<hr/> \$367 25

1871. *State and County Taxes.*

Sept. 30.	Paid County tax,	\$1,406 30
Oct. 30.	State tax,	2,544 00
		<hr/> \$3,950 30

Recapitulation.

Paid Miscellaneous bills,	\$943 63
Roads and bridges,	831 77
Support of paupers,	695 19
Bonds and interest on bonds,	3,381 49
Payments of notes and interest,	2,112 50
Schools and school houses,	2,493 00
Non-resident highway taxes worked out,	50 13
Abatements of taxes,	380 93
Town officers,	367 25
State and County taxes,	3,950 30
	<hr/> \$15,206 19
Debt of Town March 1, 1872, in bonds,	\$18,000 00
Interest on bonds to March 1, 1872, payable in coin,	720 00
Amount of outstanding notes,	3,275 00
	<hr/> \$21,995 00
Due the Town from D. E. Jones, collector of taxes for 1871,	\$1,446 89
Due from Collectors of taxes for 1870, 1869 and 1868,	272 16
Amount of notes due the Town,	787 46
Balance in hands of Treasurer,	581 44
	<hr/> 3,087 95
Balance against the Town,	<hr/> \$18,907 05

CALVIN GAGE,
JOHN E. RINES,
E. G. WOOD.

Selectmen and Overseers of the Poor of Boscawen.

The undersigned, appointed to audit the accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer of Boscawen, for the year 1871-72, report that they have examined said accounts and find the receipts from March 1, 1871, to March 1, 1872, to have been \$15,787.63, and the disbursements to have been \$15,206.19, the accounts of which are properly vouched and correctly cast, leaving a balance in the hands of the Treasurer of \$581.44.

N. BUTLER,
LUTHER GAGE, } *Auditors.*

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

FELLOW CITIZENS:

Your School Committee respectfully submit the Annual Report as follows :

DISTRICT NO. 1. (*Plain.*)

E. E. GRAVES, Prudential Committee.

SUMMER TERM.—C. F. Carroll, Warner, teacher. Whole number of scholars, 42; average attendance during term, 33.

Mr. Carroll having taught in the district before, knew what many of the scholars were capable of doing, and was therefore able to push right forward without that delay which would have been necessary with a new teacher. I think it was fully demonstrated here that a teacher giving satisfaction one term had better be engaged a second if possible. Some objected at first to having a male teacher in the summer, but I think nearly all came to the conclusion, before the close of the term, that it was more profitable than it would have been to have had a female, the school being the largest, and by far the most difficult to manage, of any in town.

Mabel Eastman, Lizzie Johnson, Lizzie Lang, Ella Pickering, Charlie Johnson and Eddie Quimby not absent.

WINTER TERM.—F. R. Chase, Campton, teacher. Whole number of scholars, 52; average attendance during term, 41.

The school was quite large, and all passed smoothly until near the close, when a little difficulty arose, resulting in several scholars absenting themselves from the school during

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the remainder of the term. The teacher was well qualified, and tried to the uttermost of his ability to interest all in their studies; and at the close many showed that his efforts had not been in vain.

In this, as in many other districts, there is not that interest manifested in the school that there should be. At the close of the school there were a good number present, but during the term but very few saw, or even appeared to care, what was transpiring within the walls of the school-house. Amount of school money, \$270.

Harry Lang, Charlie Johnson, Willie Eastman, Loile Eastman, Ida Thurston, Esther Gill, Carrie Taylor and Lizzie Lang not absent.

DISTRICT NO. 2. (*No. Water Street.*)

WILLIAM P. ABBOTT, Prudential Committee.

SUMMER TERM.—Cornelia M. Smith, Salisbury, teacher. Whole number of scholars, 7; average attendance during the term, 6.

This was the first effort of the teacher, and she succeeded well. The scholars improved under her instruction very much. More experience will qualify the teacher for a good position.

Jennie Chadwick not absent.

WINTER TERM.—Mattie George, Webster, teacher. Whole number of scholars, 8; average attendance, $7\frac{1}{2}$.

The teacher has had much experience, and is well qualified for an instructor in any common school. The scholars passed an excellent examination, and showed much improvement in every respect. Amount of school money, \$88.

Jennie Chadwick, Abbie Chadwick, Lyman Powell, Jennie Howard and Willie Lovering not absent.

DISTRICT NO. 3. (*Gulf.*)

H. C. ADAMS, Prudential Committee.

SUMMER TERM.—Lizzie F. Courser, Webster, teacher. Number of scholars, 26; average attendance during the term, 13

During the early portion of the term the school was quite well attended, and scholars evinced a desire to learn, but the latter part of the term was not as well attended, and the average was very small. If the parents in the district had sustained the teacher in some things better, more would have been accomplished.

WINTER TERM.—F. G. Chandler, Fisherville. teacher. Whole number of scholars, 30; average attendance during the term 25½.,

This school was one of the most successful terms of the year. It was practical, and the scholars seemed to understand what they passed over in their studies. If a scholar fully understands any subject, there is not much chance for any thing but good results. The school was well sustained by the parents, and was a success in every respect. Amount of school money, \$197

Elmer A. Chadwick, Leander Flanders, Emma Chadwick, and Belle Seavey not absent.

DISTRICT NO. 4. (*High Street.*)

W. C. MARDEN, Prudential Committee.

SUMMER TERM.—Luella Heath, Webster, teacher. Whole number of scholars, 11; average attendance during the term, 10.

The school being quite small, the teacher had ample time to assist all in their studies so that no one had any excuse for not making improvement, and I think there were but few who did not show that the effort on the part of the *teacher*

was sufficient. One or two of the scholars were not quite as obedient to the directions of the teacher as they should have been, otherwise everything was quite satisfactory.

Nancy J. Roby and John E. Folsom not absent.

WINTER TERM.—Same teacher. Whole number of scholars, 16; average attendance during the term, 13.

There were more scholars present at this term than at the previous, and a greater desire to learn was manifested by all. I was particularly interested in one class in Geography; they seemed to learn essentially all they passed over, and understood it fully. Some of the arithmetic classes showed marked improvement. There are two or three that will, with a very little effort, make excellent readers. Amount of school money, \$103.

Frank Folsom, George Folsom and John Folsom not absent.

The school-house in this district is very much out of repair, and I hope the people who have children will see that they are provided with a better place in which to obtain an education.

DISTRICT NO. 5. (*No. Boscauven.*)

F. L. SWEATLAND,

Prudential Committee.

SUMMER TERM.—Ida A. Edmunds, Andover, teacher. Whole number of scholars, 22; average attendance during term, 18.

The school was pleasant for teacher and scholars, and there could be no reason for a want of improvement in any of the pupils. From a misunderstanding, I was not present at the close, but was informed by one competent to judge, that the examination was very satisfactory.

Lizzie Eastman, Emma Varney and Nellie Sweatland not absent.

WINTER TERM.—Miss L. M. Bradley, Fisherville, teacher. Whole number of scholars, 22.

In this, the first effort of the teacher, she succeeded well in gaining the respect and confidence of the scholars, and when they are obtained, success will crown the efforts of any teacher. I am sorry that the parents do not take a deeper interest in the schools and visit them often. You cannot tell what degree of improvement has been made by a child, if you only go in at the close. You want to visit the school during the term as many times as possible, and then attend the examination, and you will be able to judge of the improvement made during the term, and in no other way can it be ascertained correctly.

A little repairing in the school-house would be appreciated by the scholars, I think. Amount of school money, \$112.

Francis Eastman, John Huntress, George Prichard, Willie Prichard, Charlie Howser, Horace Sweatland and Willie Sweatland not absent.

DISTRICT NO. 6. (*South Water St.*)

PETER COFFIN,

Prudential Committee.

SUMMER TERM.—Miss Angelia Kilborne, Salisbury, teacher. Whole number of scholars, 20; average attendance during term, 16½.

The teacher, although laboring under a disadvantage a large portion of the time, was successful in every respect. The scholars were very orderly, attended to their studies closely, and a rapid improvement was the result. The house had been very neatly repaired during the vacation, and I think there were none that did not appreciate the change the room in which they met in former terms had undergone.

Willie Webster and Belle Colby not absent.

WINTER TERM.—Same teacher. Whole number of scholars, 23 ; average attendance during term, 20.

The average attendance of this term was good, and a desire to make the most of the advantages offered them, was evinced by nearly all present. No special preparation was made for an examination, as there was in some schools, in order to make as favorable an impression as possible at the close. If a scholar had *learned* anything, it was evident that he had not had it drilled into him within a few days, in order to be able to tell that particular thing on that particular occasion. It is for the reason that some of our examinations are conducted in this manner, that I have visited many of the schools a day or two before the close. I wished to satisfy myself in regard to the amount that had been accomplished by the scholars during the *whole* of the term, and not in the last day or two only. Amount of school money, \$102.

Freddie Webster, Allie Webster, Nellie Webster and Lillie Atkinson not absent.

DISTRICT NO. 8. (*Cornhill.*)

D. T. HOAG,

Prudential Committee.

Addie Little, Webster, teacher. Whole number of scholars, 4 ; average attendance during term, 3½.

The school being very small, only one term was held in the district. The teacher was inexperienced, but succeeded well, and the scholars improved very rapidly. The school was very profitable to those that did attend, and it was very unfortunate that there were not more in the district to avail themselves of opportunities there offered. Amount of school money, \$49.

Almira Hoag, Juliet Hoag and Estelle Hoag not absent.

Taken as a whole, our schools have been successful, but they are not yet what they should be. The District School should, as it is yet destined to be, nearer on a level with the Academy. What we need is trained teachers, teachers of experience, if not their *own*, of others. That is what our Normal School is trying to give us. It is trying to give us instructors for our children who will be able to take advantage of years of the experience of our most successful teachers. It is trying to raise the standard of education, and place it on a level with that of other states. Every parent will say that he or she would prefer to send their children to teachers of experience, but can a person that has spent years of precious time in fitting himself for this work, afford to teach a school for the sum of \$20 a month, including board? That is the price paid some of our teachers. Almost all will admit that the better educated a person may be, the better citizen he makes. How many of our children must obtain all the education they ever have from our district school, and can we afford to turn them out into the world with no better than they can receive in some of our schools? I think not. The Report of the Commissioner of Education reveals the startling fact that eighty per cent. of all the criminals of New England have little or no education. It also reveals to us that ninety-five per cent. of the juvenile offenders come from idle and ignorant homes. Now the great question is, how can we interest the parents in the several districts of our town, in the education of their children to such a degree that they will have as good teachers as there are to be obtained, and will *pay* them for their services? One person cannot easily accomplish this, but if there are two or three in a district that will make an effort in this direction, the great end will be attained in a comparatively short time, and we shall see our children receiving a practical scientific education, that will fit them for stations in life that they cannot now attain. I do not mean that every school-boy should be taught *every-*

thing in science. What I do mean is "that no boy or girl should leave school without possessing a grasp of the general character of science and its methods," so that when turned into the world to make their own way, they may be familiar with scientific thought in such a way as to apply it to every-day occurrences with an accuracy that will meet the exigencies of the case. Most of the business that demands our attention needs investigation, and the more readily and accurately we are able to do this, the better we shall succeed. We want to be able to investigate these every-day occurrences in business in such a manner that we are able to speak of them in every-day language, and when we see our schools teaching the method of so doing, we shall see a better and more successful people everywhere. We need in our schools globes and outline maps that many of them do not yet possess, in order to accomplish some of these results, and I hope some effort will be made to obtain them. A few dollars expended in such articles would improve all scholars who wish a practical knowledge of Geography, which cannot be obtained easily without them.

E. E. GRAVES,
Supt. School Com.

BOSCAWEN, March 12, 1872.

Report of Supt. School Committee of Dist. No. 7.

I am happy to say that the schools in this district have had a higher grade of character than in almost any previous year. All the teachers have been well qualified for their work. They have entered upon their duties with energy and activity, securing respect, obedience, and a desire to learn among the scholars.

I have had but one application to dismiss a scholar for disobedience during the year, and that matter was pleasantly arranged. Children need both a firm and kind hand. I am so well pleased with the teachers that I would submit the question if it would not be desirable to secure their services for the coming year. As usual, the schools have suffered somewhat from the irregular attendance of a part of the scholars. Parents could do much to promote the interests of the schools by enforcing the regular attendance of their children. The good scholars are ordinarily the punctual ones. This evil is not a necessary one. Occasionally there are cases of sickness, or other valid reasons, but the ordinary cause is the lack of interest among the parents.

There has been a decided improvement in reading, particularly in the lower room. The scholars there are all small, and with very limited attainments, yet, evidently through much pains on the part of the teacher, the monotonous tones, so common among children of this class, have been, in a great measure, banished, and they have been taught to give proper emphasis and to use proper inflections of voice.

The school-house, which was in rather a dilapidated condition, has been repaired and rendered more tidy and com-

fortable. I am happy to add that the Prudential Committee have been assiduous in visiting the schools.

The schools, as has been the case for several previous years, have been wholly managed by females, and have been as successful as if managed by males.

Respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM R. JEWETT,

Supt. School Com.

FISHERVILLE, Feb. 29, 1872.

STATISTICAL REPORT.

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